



**BLUE GRASS BLADE.**

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THE B. & O. R. R. ACCIDENT.

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# FIFTH WHEEL

TURNING A  
"FEW LEAF"

Turning a new leaf on new year day was an old idea when I was young, and I have lately gone on my 8th year.

I suppose so many old men have started to do better on the first day of January and failed, that it is actually distasteful to them to see any mention of the suggestion.

For a number of years—25 perhaps—I have, in anticipation of the approaching new year day, studiously avoided making any resolution to try to begin to be better on the first day of the coming January, and that is the way I feel about it now, as I write this piece on the night of the 30th of December.

The only time to try to begin to be better is now, whatever time that may be.

My own experience is that I am not making much, if any, progress in getting better, or doing better, but it is at least a pleasure to me to try to improve, and it is a pleasure to me to try to get others to be good if I cannot be myself.

If I could take my choice of all the distinctions that men and women can have, it would be that of a good man, but I must regard the happiness of the man who does the most good.

There are people of mild, sweet temperaments and good will, who have the admiration of people very much more than those who are much less pleased but actually accomplish much that makes for the happiness of humans and animals. The longer I live the more I am inclined to believe that the man who does the most good is the one who is most admired.

I think that one of the earliest traditions for children was to be taught them to not hurt a bird, but, if they, or lightning bug, and that even the destroying of flies is a painful necessity.

I am not going to say that fishing and hunting are cruel and immoral, but I do believe that to do these purely for sport, and regardless of the sufferings of the fish and game cultivate, in those that do these, dispositions that give them more unhappiness than the fishing and hunting can give pleasure.

Isaac Walton, the patron saint of all fishermen, was singularly bigoted and fanatical Christian, actually contending that he could more perfectly worship God while fishing than at any other time.

Of course this involves the whole question of meat eating and leads to theories where it is not possible to "The question is 'life worth living'?"

It is not always the man and woman who are going to live on around us, but I have always regarded as an especially happy double entendre, though really perfect health does not secure happiness, and I know from experience, and I have known many jaywalkers who seemed to be happy, and who certainly did make others happy.

When the question is answered from the moral point of view, I say "It depends upon the liver," not in the sense that an absolutely good man or woman, or even a child, is such, but that absolutely happy, for nothing is absolute but mathematics, but the nearest approach to complete happiness can only be attained by the highest attainable goodness.

It is really good to have one's physical lives so as to make our bodies and minds capable of their highest good to others, and I think that good consists in our purpose and effort to make others happy.

It is nearly always, practically, to see what is true—freely, exceedingly hard, some times almost impossible to realize, but I think the principle is true, but just how far we should deny ourselves comforts to make others happy I believe can only be determined, if determinable at all, by using our best judgment as each individual case presents itself.

I am quite satisfied that wealth does not of itself, make people happy, and that it can only do this when used as a means of making others happy, and I am satisfied that poverty does not necessarily make one unhappy, but, on the other hand, I do not think that poverty makes anybody happy, or that riches, necessarily, make them unhappy.

I believe that a great deal of the unhappiness of poor people results from their envy of rich people who are not as happy as the people.

I believe that a great deal of happiness and usefulness are now being destroyed by these organized efforts to increase luxury and that the happiness must be as individual matter.

And yet, in spite of this, my own opinion, I am a member of the National Labor Party, because I believe that it is an organized effort to elevate the human race.

In the same way while my best judgment is to not believe in the possession of millions of dollars, probably giving its owner more trouble than happiness, and that I know that the rich are not so happy as the poor people I suppose if some body would offer me millions of dollars tonight, I would make known that from the excitement I would not sleep at all, but would be so sleepy soundly all night without waking a dollar.

So the fact of the thing is that we all talk one way and act another way when the test comes.

The best we can do then is to make philosophy as perfect as we possibly can, and then live up to it as nearly as we can.

I think there is nothing very more

morally axiomatic than that the great and only true purpose of life is to be happy, and I think it is beyond doubt that this present life is the only one, and that a future life is not only not a fact but is a thing to be desired.

I think the "longing after immortality" imputed to Plato is really the true sentiment, but that the idea of eternal and absolute rest is the real desire of the people, and that means eternal unconsciousness.

So that what we should do must all depend upon this life.

The most common mistake that we make is our purpose to do good, in making the great thing that affects society and the world generally.

That, of course, all right in the few instances where people can do this, either by their money or genius or labor, and all such persons should exercise their talents for the public good.

But the great secret of doing good is to do light now, to the first human or animal that you meet, some good thing, though it may be small, and, by making some one else happy, make yourself happy, and the person that can most things, and of course, he is one in your own family including your servants, when you have no other.

There are thousands of wives and children who would far rather have little expressions of kindness that do not cost anything than have their "day" presents that are given them, and there are thousands of husbands who would rather have their wives with a disposition to magnify the virtues and misty fact faults of the husband, than to see their wives the little leaders of society.

To me one of the most pitiful classes of society is the rich woman who has nothing to do, have no occupation and no business and are trying to get happiness out of what they call "society."

"Get busy" is what all such should do.

Great business success does not secure happiness.

I know many who have started on nothing and attained fame and wealth who are hardly, if at all, happier than those who have not.

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not time to attend to the advertising part of the paper. So I made them smaller, and increased the reading matter in it, all the time up to this date, and will probably do so in the future. I make this explanation to show

Blade readers that it is not had managements upon the part of the Blade, but that it occasionally gets into financial straits because it can not support itself when thousands of little local newspapers with about 200 subscribers, that set about one-on-ths as much as the Blade does, are suffering, when really they are so because their expenses are about one-fourth as great as the Blade's, and they get the advertising of their towns, by having political and religious dogmases.

All of this is suggested to me by reading in "Winthrop's Magazine" (Socialist) page 74, February 1903, the following:

"This magazine depends for its success upon advertising patronage. The price obtained for subscription does not pay for the white paper." Rev. A.

Accordingly about half of his magazine is filled with advertisements. I would not want to fill half of the Blade, with its present size, with advertisements, and what I am writing here is not merely to mislead, but to advertise as it is to explain why the Blade, and other papers, generally, are not self-supporting.

The very first thing in that issue of Winthrop's paper is a full page of advertising of a kind of face cream, and below which is printed:

"Rev. Rev. D. Huntington, Bishop of Central New York."

A little further on is a picture of a lady in spectacles and straight brooch, and below is printed:

"J. Byron Curtis," and the usual stuff is given to Christianity.

But what I started out to say is this: I would love to fill about two columns of the Blade with business advertisements at \$10 an inch a year.

It would not pay a man whose business is purely local, but there are many letters that come to the Blade that have, on their heads and on their backs, the advertisement of some business that I believe it would pay to advertise in the Blade.

Some of you are willing to give \$2 of \$10 to the Blade a year, and it seems to me that a \$10 ad in the Blade would pay for itself and help the Blade.

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HOMESEEKER'S  
EXCURSION

—Via—  
QUEEN AND CRESCENT  
ROUTE

To points in  
Colorado, Arizona,  
Kansas, Kansas,  
Mexico, Michigan,  
Minnesota, Missouri,  
Nebraska, New Mexico,  
North Dakota, Oklahoma,  
South Dakota, Texas,  
Utah, Wyoming.

Tickets on sale the first and third Tuesday of each month to April 19, 1904, inclusive, good returning 21 days from date of sale. Ask Ticket Agent for particulars or address O. E. Clarke, T. P. A., Lexington, Ky.

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Winter Tourists Tickets Now on Sale via  
ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD.

TO  
NEW ORLEANS, LA., AND  
OTHER SOUTHERN POINTS  
ALSO TO HOT SPRINGS, ARK.

THROUGH PERSONALLY CONDUCTED EXCURSIONS. LEAPERS TO CALIFORNIA, TEXAS, NEW MEXICO AND ARIZONA, WYOMING, MONTANA, IDAHO, NEVADA, AND UTAH.

REDUCED ONEWAY COLONIST AND HOME SEEKERS' EXCURSION RATES TO POINTS SOUTH AND WEST FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAYS IN EACH MONTH.

FARMING IN THE SOUTH.  
The Passenger Department of the Illinois Central Railroad Company is leasing monthly circulars concerning fruit growing, vegetable gardening, stock raising, dairying, etc., in the States of Kentucky, West Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana. Every Farmer, or Homeseeker, who will forward his name and address to the nearest Ticket Agent, will receive a Circular No. 1 to 11 inclusive, and others as they are published from month to month.

ASK LOCAL TICKET AGENTS FOR THROUGH TICKETS AND FURTHER INFORMATION, OR ADDRESS  
**F. W. HARLOW**  
Division Passenger Agent  
Louisville Kentucky

Special Train for Davenport, Lincoln County, Oklahoma, December 19th.

The town, while only six weeks old, has shown possibilities of a great future. Its population has steadily grown from the opening day. With the finest climate, a splendid agricultural country, this will soon be among the leading towns of the great South-west. A greater variety of crops can be produced—any part of a year.

Further information, call on or address the Kentucky-Oklahoma Land and Cattle Co., Lexington, Ky., or Davenport, Oklahoma.

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